

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEFENDING AGAINST DENIAL OF  
SERVICE ATTACKS WHICH EMPLOY IP SOURCE ADDRESS SPOOFING**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5           A method and apparatus for defending against denial of service (DoS) attacks  
which employ IP (Internet Protocol) address spoofing. In accordance with an  
illustrative embodiment of the invention, a carrier offers a “premium” service which  
comprises marking IP data packets based on whether it has in fact been able to verify  
the accuracy of the specified IP source address. This marking flag may be  
10 implemented with use of a zero/non-zero Type-of-Service (TOS) field value in the IP  
header, and verification of the source address may be performed with use of a Reverse  
Path Forwarding (RPF) or other similar such test. The “premium” service is referred  
to herein as “IP CallerID.”